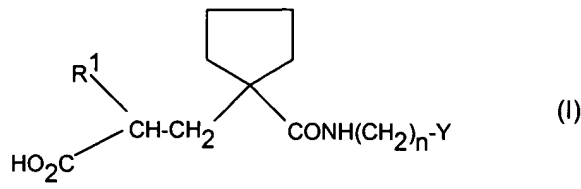


IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled).
2. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I),



wherein

R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl which may be substituted by one or more substituents, which may be the same or different, selected from the list: halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₂₋₆ hydroxyalkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy(C₁₋₆alkoxy), C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkenyl, aryl, aryloxy, (C₁₋₄alkoxy)aryloxy, heterocyclyl, heterocyclyloxy, -NR²R³, -NR⁴COR⁵, -NR⁴SO₂R⁵, -CONR²R³, -S(O)_pR⁶, -COR⁷ and -CO₂(C₁₋₄alkyl); or R¹ is C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocyclyl, each of which may be substituted by one or more substituents from said list, which substituents may be the same or different, which list further includes C₁₋₆alkyl; or R¹ is C₁₋₆ alkoxy, -NR²R³ or -NR⁴SO₂R⁵;

Wherein

R² and R³ are each independently H, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl (optionally substituted by hydroxy or C₁₋₄alkoxy), aryl, (C₁₋₄alkyl)aryl, C₁₋₆alkoxyaryl or heterocyclyl; or R² and R³ together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, morpholino, piperazinyl or N-(C₁₋₄ alkyl)piperazinyl group;

R⁴ is H or C₁₋₄alkyl;

R⁵ is C₁₋₄alkyl, CF₃, aryl, (C₁₋₄ alkyl)aryl, (C₁₋₄alkoxy)aryl, heterocyclyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy or -NR²R³ wherein R² and R³ are as previously defined;

R⁶ is C₁₋₄alkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl or NR²R³ wherein R² and R³ are as previously defined; and

R⁷ is C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocyclyl;

p is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

n is 0, 1 or 2;

the -(CH₂)_n- linkage is optionally substituted by C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl substituted with one or more fluoro groups or phenyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, hydroxy, hydroxy(C₁₋₃alkyl), C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocyclyl;

Y is an optionally substituted 5-7 membered heterocyclic ring, which may be saturated, unsaturated or aromatic and contains a nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur and optionally one, two or three further nitrogen atoms in the ring and which may be optionally benzofused and optionally substituted by:

C₁₋₆alkoxy; hydroxy; oxo; amino; mono or di-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino; C₁₋₄alkanoylamino; or

C₁₋₆alkyl which may be substituted by one or more substituents, which may be the same or different, selected from the list: C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆haloalkoxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, halogen, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl or phenyl; or

C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl or heterocyclyl, each of which may be substituted by one or more substituents, which may be the same or different, selected from the list: C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆haloalkoxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, halogen, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl or phenyl;

wherein when there is an oxo substitution on the heterocyclic ring, the ring only contains one or two nitrogen atoms and the oxo substitution is adjacent a nitrogen atom in the ring;

pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein ~~R¹, n and Y are as defined in claim 1~~ with the proviso that when R¹ is propyl or phenylethyl, R¹⁴ is not -CH₂OH.

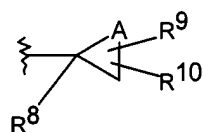
3. (Previously presented) A compound of formula (I), pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein R¹, n and Y are as defined in claim 1 with the proviso that R¹⁴ is not H or -CH₂OH.

4. (original) A compound according to claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein R¹ is C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkoxy(C₁₋₃)alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxyC₁₋₆alkoxyC₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₆alkyl substituted with aryl.

5. (original) A compound according to claim 4, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy(C_{1-3})alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy C_{1-6} alkoxy C_{1-3} alkyl.

6. (original) A compound according to claim 5, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein R^1 is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkoxy(C_{1-3})alkyl.

7. (Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein when Y is the group



and the carbocyclic ring is fully saturated, then preferably one of R^9 or R^{10} is $-CH_2OH$; $-C(O)NR^{11}R^{12}$; C_{1-6} alkyl; phenyl optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl; or phenyl(C_{1-4} alkyl) wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl.

8. (Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 7, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein the carbocyclic ring is 5, 6 or 7 membered wherein one of R^9 or R^{10} , is $-C(O)NR^{11}R^{12}$, with the other being C_{1-6} alkyl; phenyl optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl; or phenyl(C_{1-4} alkyl) wherein the phenyl group is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl.

9. (Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 7, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein R^9 and R^{10} are attached to adjacent carbon atoms in the ring.

10. (Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 7 pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein R^8 is CH_2OH .

11. (Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein when Y is the group $-NR^{18}S(O)_UR^{19}$, preferably R^{18} is H.

12. (Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein R¹⁹ is benzyl or phenyl.

13. (Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein u is 2.

14. (Original) A compound according to claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein Y is an optionally substituted 5-7 membered heterocyclic ring.

15. (original) A compound according to claim 14, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein the 5-7 membered heterocyclic ring is an optionally substituted aromatic ring.

16. (original) A compound according to claim 15, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein said aromatic ring is pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, indolyl, isoindolyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, pyridonyl, quinoxalyl or quinazolinyl each of which may be substituted as defined in claim 1.

17. (original) A compound according to claim 16, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein the aromatic ring is oxadiazole, pyridone or thiadiazole each of which may be substituted as defined in claim 1.

18. (original) A compound according to claim 17, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein the aromatic ring is 1,2,5-oxadiazole, 1,3,4-oxadiazole, 2-pyridone or 1,3,4-thiadiazole each of which may be substituted as defined in claim 1.

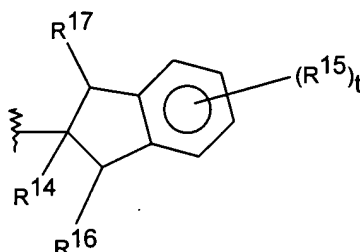
19. (original) A compound according to claim 14, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein the 5-7 membered heterocyclic ring is substituted by one or more C₁₋₆alkyl, phenyl or phenylC₁₋₄alkyl.

20. (original) A compound according to claim 19, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein the 5-7 membered heterocyclic ring is substituted by C₁₋₄alkyl or benzyl.

21. (original) A compound according to claim 17, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein when Y is a pyridone said pyridone is *N*-substituted pyridone.

22. (Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 14, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein Y is a lactam linked at the nitrogen.

23. (Withdrawn) A compound according to any claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein Y is

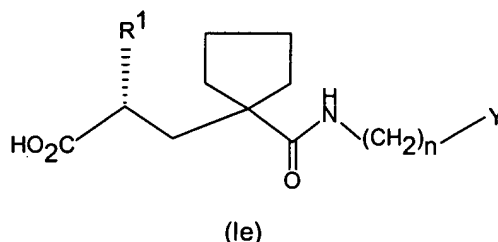


wherein R¹⁴ is CH₂OH or C(O)NR¹¹R¹²

24. (original) A compound according to claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are hydrogen.

25. (original) A compound according to claim 2, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, wherein t is 0.

26. (original) A compound of formula Ie, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof,



wherein R¹, Y and n are as defined in claim 2.

27. (previously presented) A compound, pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, polymorphs or prodrugs thereof, selected from the group consisting of:

2-[(1-[(1-benzyl-6-oxo-1,6-dihydro-3-pyridinyl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-methyl]-4-methoxybutanoic acid;

2-[(1-[(3-(2-oxo-1-pyrrolidinyl)propyl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-methyl]-4-phenylbutanoic acid);

(+)-2-[(1-[(2-(hydroxymethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-methyl]-4-phenylbutanoic acid;

2-[(1-[(5-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl)-methyl]-4-phenylbutanoic acid;

(+)-2-[(1-[(2-(hydroxymethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-methyl]pentanoic acid;

(2*R*)-2-[(1-[(5-ethyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl)-methyl]pentanoic acid or (-)-2-[(1-[(5-ethyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl)-methyl]pentanoic acid;

(2*S*)-2-[(1-[(5-ethyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl)-methyl]pentanoic acid or (+)-2-[(1-[(5-ethyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl)-methyl]pentanoic acid ;

2-[(1-[(1-benzyl-6-oxo-1,6-dihydro-3-pyridinyl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl)-methyl]pentanoic acid ;

3-[1-[(5-benzyl-[1,3,4]-thiadiazol-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-2-(methoxyethyl)propanoic acid ;

3-[1-[(4-butylpyridin-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-2-(methoxyethyl)propanoic acid ;

3-[1-[(4-phenylpyridin-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-2-(methoxyethyl)propanoic acid ;

2-[(1-[(2-(hydroxymethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-methyl]-4-methoxybutanoic acid ;

(*R*)- 2-[(1-[(2-(hydroxymethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-methyl]-4-methoxybutanoic acid ; and

(*S*)-2-[(1-[(2-(hydroxymethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)amino]carbonyl)cyclopentyl]-methyl]-4-methoxybutanoic acid.

28. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 wherein the female sexual dysfunction treated includes at least female sexual arousal dysfunction (FSAD).

- 29. (Cancelled).
- 30. (Cancelled).
- 31. (Withdrawn) A method of treatment or prophylaxis of a condition for which a beneficial therapeutic response can be obtained by the inhibition of neutral endopeptidase comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 2.
- 32. (Previously Cancelled)
- 33. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound as defined in claim 2 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
- 34. (Withdrawn) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of female sexual dysfunction comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 2.
- 35. (Previously Cancelled)
- 36. (Cancelled).